

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Cuba

SUBJECT Government Opposition to PSP Radio Program

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1. The Partido Socialista Popular (PSP), Cuban Communist Party, which has been making strenuous efforts to establish a regular radio program to be directed by Blas Roca, has failed to obtain radio time on Cuban stations. It has encountered a general reluctance on the part of station owners to permit the Communists to use their facilities. This may be a result of pressure on several stations by the Cuban government to prevent the PSP from starting another anti-administration radio program.
2. Gaspar Pumarejo, owner of Union Radio, recently prevented the Communists from using his channels for a proposed Sunday program which the PSP wanted to spread propaganda for Lazaro Pena's Confederacion de Trabajadores de Cuba (CTC). This program was to have been directed by Pena and Jaime Graevalosa, Propaganda Secretary of the PSP. Although Pumarejo refused to give the PSP time for this program, the government has put pressure on other radio stations to keep Blas Roca from going on the air. The Cuban government is aware of Roca's present ascendancy in the political limelight and is anxious to keep him off the air. Such broadcasts would not only help further the Communist cause but would also increase Roca's political power among Cuban workers who have not yet had an opportunity to hear him.
3. The radio hour sponsored by Communist telephone workers and Communist workers in the Compania Cubana de Electricidad was recently suspended by government order through the Ministry of Communications, allegedly as a result of particularly violent attack against President Prio. This program, heard over station CMX was used to attack Vicente Hubiera and Angel Cofino, directors of the telephone workers and workers in the Compania Cubana de Electricidad respectively; the anti-Communist CTC and its leader, Eusebio Mujal, as well as the government of Carlos Prio Socarras.
4. In spite of this muffling of the PSP "voice," it still has a few outlets for its propaganda. Certain radio stations owned by individuals in opposition to the government or radio programs controlled by Communists or fellow travelers will probably give the PSP an opportunity to take advantage of this propaganda medium. Station OOO, owned by Guido Garcia Inclan, who is opposed to the Prio administration, has frequently defended the Communist CTC and has allowed Pena's CTC to use his broadcasting facilities.

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None of the union leaders of the anti-Communist CTC have been asked to speak on Garcia Inclan's "Newspaper of the Air," a round table forum for the Communist leaders of the CTC.

5. Jose Pardo Llada, director of the news program "La Palabra," has done much to defend the Communist CTC in his broadcasts on syndical problems in Cuba. Alberto Salas Amaro, Hoy correspondent and a member of Fulgencio Batista's Partido Accion Unitaria Progresista, constantly and openly campaigns for the Communists on his program.

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